

REMARKS

This application is being filed concurrently with entry into the National Stage (Chapter I) of International Application No. PCT/GB2005/000881 which claims the priority of Great Britain Patent Application No. 0406748.4.


This Preliminary Amendment was considered when calculating the filing fee. Accordingly, the total number of claims specified on the Transmittal Letter is 33 and the number of independent claims is 3.

The Specification has been amended to place the application in proper U.S. format. Headings have been added to each section.

Claims 1-16 remain in the application and claims 17-33 are new. Claims 3, 6, 8-11 and 13-15 have been amended to eliminate multiple dependencies in these claims and to place the claims in proper U.S. format. The specification has furthermore been amended by the insertion on page 4 before line 3 of the identical text that has been deleted from page 1 line 28 to page 2 line 18, and from page 2 line 26 to page 3 line 20. No new matter has been introduced.

Although fees for 14 extra claims have been authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-2865, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 02-2865 any additional fee required by this submission.

Respectfully submitted,


Ira Lee Zebrak
Registration No. 31,147
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Date: *Sept 26, 2006*

The BOC Group, Inc.
Legal Services-Intellectual Property
575 Mountain Avenue
Murray Hill, NJ 07974
Phone: 908-771-6469
Fax: 908-771-6159

Customer No.: 020411